



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
Department of Emergency Management

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Tropical Storms Bonnie & Charley
SITUATION REPORT #5
1800, 14 August 04

SITUATION:

As of 1700, the National Weather Service reports Tropical Storm Charley is moving toward the north-northeast near 30 mph and is tracking across the Hampton Roads region. This forward motion is expected to continue to increase speed during the next 24 hours. Storm surge flooding, storm tide impacts, minor threat of beach erosion and minor to moderate coastal flooding are forecasted for Saturday evening as the storm passes through. Storm surge could be 1 to 2 feet across most of the Chesapeake Bay, including the tidal portion of most rivers flowing into the Bay. Higher surges of 2 to 3 feet are possible in selected areas.

Emergency management officials in Dare County, NC are strongly encouraging people planning to arrive in the area to delay their plans until Sunday when Tropical Storm Charley has passed.

WEATHER:

Heavy rain is expected through Saturday night and is forecasted to end as Tropical Storm Charley exits the Commonwealth. Precipitation projections indicate a total of 3-6 inches of rain. Sustained winds of 30-40 mph and gusts over 50 mph are possible. Tropical storm winds will overspread the middle bay and Eastern Shore during the evening into the night. Isolated tornadoes, as well as downed trees and power lines are possible.

EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS:

- Governor Mark R. Warner declared a state of emergency at 1015 August 14, 2004
- Local emergencies have been declared by the cities of Chesapeake, Danville, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk and Virginia Beach; the counties of Gloucester, Isle of Wight, James City and York.
- Local EOCs have been opened in the above jurisdictions as well as in the cities of Colonial Heights and Franklin and the counties of Chesterfield, Lancaster, Southampton and Henrico.

Impact on Individuals

- City of Danville (tornado wind damage on August 12, 2004):
 - 15-20 reported with minor injuries
 - 1,500 customers without power
 - All major roads passable; 6-12 secondary roads and streets closed due to debris and high water; restricted travel in the Forest Hill area – open to residents only
 - Two reported water lines broken
- Shelters are open or on standby in those jurisdictions that have declared an emergency or have opened their EOC.

“Working to Protect People, Property and Our Communities”

ONGOING STATE ACTIONS:

- Virginia Emergency Operations Center at Readiness Level 1
- VEOC currently has selected state agencies in place and will be fully staffed tomorrow morning
- DMA activated 100 personnel who are standing by for mission assignment
- VDOT has plans in place to close the Jamestown-Scotland Ferry and the Midtown Tunnel if necessary
- Virginia Public Inquiry Center (VPIC) will open tonight and take calls from 1800 – 2100 and on August 15 from 0800 – 2000. The toll-free number is 866-880-4280
- FEMA State Liaison Officer has arrived at the VEOC and the FEMA State Liaison Team is enroute
- DMV waiver for out-of-state utility trucks in place at all weigh stations
- Department of Health has put District and Regional Teams on alert and is checking communications equipment
- State Corporation Commission has contacted all state utilities to determine their preparatory actions
- Dominion Virginia Power opened 3 regional storm centers earlier today and the system storm center will open at 1800
- State Police have sent approximately 20 troopers to the Williamsburg-Hampton Roads area on standby and 2 swift water rescue teams are being assembled to be deployed to the Middlesex and Peninsula areas
- American Red Cross Hurricane Watch Team is operational and received one resource request that has been completed
- Amateur radio operators (RACES) are operational in the VEOC

PROJECTED STATE ACTIONS:

- The VEOC will conduct a conference call with state agencies at 1130 on August 15.
- Conference calls with FEMA Region 3 and neighboring states will continue
- Coastal jurisdictions will be notified of the next conference call at 1900.
- The next SITREP will be issued based on the time of tomorrow's conference call and will be available on www.vaemergency.com

STATE PRIORITIES:

- Citizen safety and welfare
- Emergency public information
- Aggressive pursuit of providing resources to local governments
- Continuous communication with localities
- Collection and evaluation of Initial Damage Assessments and Local Situation Reports

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